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1. According to the provisions of the law "Concerning Procedure in Criminal Cases in the German Democratic Republic", the Volkspolizei are to be given broad rights and duties as investigating organs.^{1/} In implementation of this law Investigative Sections (Untersuchungsabteilung) are to be established as independent sections within the Volkspolizei. The law, reportedly promulgated in December 1952, makes provisions for the establishment of Investigative Sections by 10 January 1953 in the Hauptverwaltung der deutschen Volkspolizei (HVDVP), by 20 January 1953 in the Behoerden der deutschen Volkspolizei (BDVP), and by 31 January 1953 in the Volkspolizei Kreisamter (VPKA).
2. The Main Department for Criminal Police (Hauptabteilung Kriminalpolizei) (HA Kripo) of the HVDVP was given until 5 January 1953 to create the structural organization of the Investigative Section. The Main Personnel Department (Hauptabteilung Personal) was to coordinate with the HA Kripo a table of organization for the Investigative Section. The following is the tentative plan for the strength of the Investigative Sections in the various East Berlin Inspectorates (Inspektionen) plus the Praesidium of the East Berlin Volkspolizei:

Berlin-Mitte	25 persons
Weissensee	7 persons
Mahlenberg	8 persons
Markow	8 persons
Prenzlauer Berg	12 persons
Tempelhof	8 persons
Friedrichshain	12 persons
Koepenick	9 persons
Praesidium	11 persons

The Praesidium was to be headed by a VP-Kommandeur in the class VI pay scale. Within the Praesidium of the East Berlin police organization, the present chief of the VP school in Berlin-Koepenick, VP-Kommandeur (fnu) Pfaff, was being considered for the job of heading the Investigative Section. It is not known whether he was assigned the post.

3. Personnel for the Investigative Sections are to be drawn mainly from among the experienced employees of the Criminal Police. If, however, suitable individuals can be found in other sections of the police department, they are to be made available to the Investigative Sections.

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4. The Quartermaster Department (Abteilung Intendantur) and the Technical Service Department (Technische Dienste Abteilung) are to make the necessary equipment available to the Investigative Sections.
5. The provisional chief of the Investigative Section within the HVDVP is VP-Inspekteur (fnu) Weidmann.
6. The Investigative Section is to take over from all branches or sections of the Volkspolizei criminal investigations in cases where a crime has been ascertained and proven and where the criminal is known. The Section is to investigate the circumstances and consequences of the crime and the personality of the criminal and his motives; it is to clear up any mitigating circumstances in the case. It will interrogate witnesses and the accused and ascertain what law has been broken. The Section is to maintain files of the investigation, and it will prepare a detailed report which will collate the results of its investigation. The report is to be passed on to the District Attorney (Staatsanwalt). The Section will direct preliminary arrests and will apply to the District Attorney for warrants for arrest. The Section will furthermore see to it that the time limits in which the various sections of the police must investigate the case are met. The time limits are set in accordance with the regulations stated in Proclamation No. 9-52 of the Attorney General's Office (Generalstaatsanwalt) of East Germany.
7. The chief of the HA Kripo of the HVDVP was given until 15 January to prepare a detailed report concerning the work of the Investigative Section. The report was to be turned in to the head of the HVDVP, Generalinspekteur Karl Maron.

1/ Comment. This law removes from the offices of the District Attorney most of the latter's investigative functions and makes the police organization responsible for these duties. It is presumed that the District Attorney will be charged with general supervisory functions over most aspects of official East German administrative life.

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